The number of habitations benefited in the remaining tranches would be known once the project proposals are prepared by the State at a later date.

Loan from World Bank for roads in rural areas

†3987. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether loan from the World Bank has been received for connecting rural habitations with roads;

(b) if so, the amount of loan so far sanctioned by the World Bank;

(c) the total volume of the loan and names of States with projects being constructed therein; and

(d) by when each of these projects is targeted to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. For implementing projects under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), World Bank Loan amounting to US $ 400 million has also been obtained for rural roads project. The date of loan agreement is October, 2004. The loan is being utilized for the States of Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The expected date for closure of the Agreement is 31st March, 2010 by which time most of the World Bank funded projects should be completed.

Implementation of Land Reform Act

†3988. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken or proposes to take any steps to implement the Land Reform Act effectively, to distribute the surplus land among the poor and to provide facility to the landless workers for formation of their organization to protect their interests;

(b) if so, the details thereof as on date; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDRA SEKHAR SAHU): (a) to (c) Land and its management falls within the legislative and administrative jurisdiction of the State Governments as provided under Entry No. 18 of State List (List II) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The role of the Central Government in this field is only of an advisory and coordinating nature. However, implementation of land reforms programmes is reviewed from time to time at various fora, including Conferences of the Revenue Ministers/Secretaries of States and UTs organized by the Ministry of Rural Development. The State Governments have, *inter-alia*, been requested from time to time for distribution of ceiling surplus land, Govt. wasteland and Bhoodan land to the eligible rural poor by preparation of action plans, and to complete the task by undertaking special drives.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.